

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ATHENS 01955 081524Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-07 SOE-02 DODE-00  
DOE-11 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 PA-01 AID-05 CEA-01  
COME-00 H-01 INT-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06 STR-07  
TRSE-00 /139 W  
-----017640 090315Z /66

R 081422Z MAR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4866

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 1955

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: TECH, ENRG, GR  
SUBJ: OFFICIAL AFFIRMATION OF GREECE'S NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAM

REF: (A) 77 ATHENS 9357; (B) 77 ATHENS 9587; (C) ATHENS 1480

1. ACCORDING TO NEWSPAPER REPORTS PUBLISHED ON MARCH 7,  
MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND ENERGY MILTIADES  
EVERT, IN RESPONSE TO OPPOSITION QUESTIONS DURING A RECENT  
SESSION OF PARLIAMENT, REAFFIRMED THE POSITION OF THE PREVIOUS  
ADMINISTRATION CONCERNING GREECE'S NUCLEAR ENERGY OPTION.

2. IN AMPLIFICATION OF AN OCTOBER 12 PRESS CONFERENCE HELD BY  
THEN MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND ENERGY CONSTANTINE KONOFAGOS  
(SEE REF A), EVERT STATED THAT, ALTHOUGH THE MINISTRY OF  
INDUSTRY AND ENERGY HAS APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE THE PUBLIC  
POWER CORPORATION'S PROGRAM FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A 600 MW NUCLEAR  
POWER PLANT, AN OPTION EXISTS FOR CANCELLING THE PROJECT WITHIN THE  
NEXT TWO OR THREE YEARS AT RELATIVELY LITTLE COST. CONSTRUC-  
TION OF THE FACILITY--NOT EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED UNTIL  
1986--IS BEING PRECEDED BY DESIGN AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES  
WHICH WILL TAKE TWO OR THREE YEARS. IT WILL ONLY BE AT  
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THE TERMINATION OF THESE STUDIES THAT AN IRREVERSIBLE  
COMMITMENT MUST BE MADE FOR PROCEEDING WITH THE CONSTRUCTION  
PHASE.

3. EVERT SUPPORTED APPROVAL OF THE PROGRAM'S INITIAL STAGE  
BY NOTING THAT ALL OF GREECE'S KNOWN LIGNITE DEPOSITS--  
ITS ONLY SIGNIFICANT DOMESTIC FUEL RESOURCE AT PRESENT--

WILL BE COMMITTED TO USE IN THERMAL POWER PLANTS ON-LINE BY 1985. DESPITE CURRENT RESEARCH IN OTHER FORMS OF CLEAN ENERGY, IT IS NOT LIKELY THAT THESE WILL GENERATE SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS OF ENERGY DURING THE NEXT TWENTY TO TWENTY-FIVE YEARS. CONSEQUENTLY, EVERT NOTED THAT UNDERTAKING THE INITIAL STAGES OF THE NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAM WAS "ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL."

4. COMMENT: THIS APPEARS TO BE THE FIRST AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT CONCERNING THE NUCLEAR POWER PROJECT BY THE NEW ADMINISTRATION. DESPITE THE ARGUMENT BEING MADE THAT THE GOG IS ONLY OPENING AN OPTION, REAL INTENTIONS TOWARD A NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAM MAY BE STRONGER. THE EMBASSY HAS RECENTLY BEEN QUERIED BY GOG OFFICIALS CONCERNING THE AVAILABILITY OF A REVISED ENRICHMENT SERVICES CONTRACT (REF C). THE GOG ALLOWED THE PREVIOUS CONTRACT TO EXPIRE IN OCTOBER BECAUSE OF ITS POLITICAL SENSITIVITY JUST PRIOR TO THE ELECTIONS.  
MILLS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Reference:** 77 ATHENS 9357, 77 ATHENS 9587, 78 ATHENS 1480  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Subject:** OFFICIAL AFFIRMATION OF GREECE'S NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAM  
**TAGS:** TECH, ENRG, GR  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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